

Secures \$6 Million for Sixth District Projects

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Charlie Wilson voted to support American troops and their families by providing them with necessary weapons, support, and equipment. The Defense Appropriations Act makes critical investments in the health, well-being and readiness of our armed forces, and includes a number of emergency provisions to help American families weather this recession. Wilson worked with several other members of Congress to secure \$6 million in earmarks that will benefit Ohio's Sixth District.

The Defense Appropriations Act includes a 3.4% pay raise for our military. It also provides the troops an additional \$500 for every month their term of service is involuntarily extended by the practice of stop loss. Additionally, the legislation invests \$29 billion in the Defense Health Program and boosts funding to support military families with programs like child care, job training for spouses, and expanded counseling services.

This legislation makes key investments in troop readiness, providing the military with first rate equipment. And for the first time since the beginning of operations in Iraq, this bill also honestly budgets for Overseas Deployment and other activities in Iraq and Afghanistan for the upcoming fiscal year.

"I have always supported our military," Wilson said. "I feel it is our duty to provide our soldiers with the tools they need to stay safe and achieve success. We owe that much to the brave men and women in uniform as well as their families."

This legislation also makes a commitment to fiscal responsibility by reigning in outsourcing and putting Defense personnel, not contractors, in charge of critical department functions. At the same time, it will allow the Inspector General to hire additional investigators to ensure proper oversight of Department of Defense acquisition and contracting.

To help Americans hit hardest by this recession, this bill also provides emergency relief by extending unemployment insurance, helping with health insurance premiums through the COBRA program, and funding for nutrition assistance programs to help families in need put food on their table.

"Not only is this legislation critical to the success and safety of our military, but these additional provisions ensure that those struggling in this financial crisis can continue to provide for themselves and their families," Wilson added. "I'm proud of this legislation and very happy that it will bring critical dollars and jobs back home."

The following local projects will be funded by the Defense Appropriations Act:

Advanced Aerospace Heat Exchangers at Ohio University will receive \$3.2 million to develop light-weight carbon foam based heat exchangers that will help numerous military weapons systems with heat management issues. Another OU project, Distributed Power from

Wastewater, will receive \$2 million to develop technology that will make military base camps more self-sufficient and energy efficient. And the Timken Company will receive \$800,000 to create an improved aerospace bearing that is tough, corrosion resistant, and able to tolerate the high speeds and temperatures of expanding mission requirements.